

pickup apparatus;

recognizing the image pickup apparatus in response to said device recognition attribute information; and

sending the external color control signal to said image pickup apparatus to control the color of said digital image signal according to a result of the recognizing.

38. An image signal processing method according to claim 37, wherein external color control signal controls the color space of said digital image signal according to the result of the recognizing.

#### REMARKS

Claims 1-28 have been canceled and in lieu thereof claims 29-38 have been added. Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes to the claims made by this amendment. This marked-up version has been entitled "Version With Markings To Show Changes Made."

Claims 1, 10, 12, 20-22 and 24-28 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Takizawa et al. patent taken in view of the Lightbody et al. patent. Claims 2-9, 11, 13-19 and 23 have been rejected also under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable based on the latter two patents taken in further view of the Sakoda, et al. patent. Applicants' claims 1-28 have been deleted, thereby rendering these rejections moot with respect to such claims. To the extent that the rejections are believed applicable to added claims 29-38, the rejections are respectfully traversed.

Applicant's invention of independent claim 29 is directed to an image pickup apparatus for forming a digital image signal in which a color converting part is arranged to convert color of the digital image signal in response to an external color control signal from an external apparatus.

A device recognition attribute information memory is provided for storing device recognition attribute information. An interface part is arranged to communicate with the external apparatus, wherein the interface part sends the device recognition attribute information to the external apparatus, then the interface part receives the external color control signal with which the color of the digital image signal is controlled according to a result of recognition by the external apparatus. Independent claim 33 is directed to an image pickup method counterpart to the image pickup apparatus of independent claim 29, independent claim 35 to an image signal processing apparatus connectable to the image pickup apparatus of independent claim 29, and independent claim 37 to an image signal processing method counterpart to the apparatus of independent claim 35. These constructions are not taught or suggested by the cited art of record.

The Examiner has argued, with respect to the cited Takizawa, et al. and Lightbody patents, as follows:

"Takizawa discloses . . . an interface part for externally transferring the image signal and recognition attribute information of the image pickup apparatus (Takizawa: column 4, lines 57-60) to an external signal processing apparatus (Takizawa: column 3, lines 60-64); an external signal processing apparatus . . . having a control part . . . wherein the control part receives said recognition attribute information and controls the processing of the image signal so that the bit numbers of the image signal are reduced (Takizawa: column 3, lines 9-12) . . . It would have been obvious . . . to incorporate the use of the Lightbody plurality of color space converting means (Lightbody: column 5, lines 14-27), wherein the color space converting apparatus would controlled in accordance with the external processing apparatus (Lightbody: column 4, lines 15-25; column 5, lines 1-5) for use in an image processing apparatus for output to a plurality of external devices (Lightbody: column 5, lines 42-53) as downloadable into the Takizawa program memory from the external

interface (Takizawa: column 4, lines 52-63) in order to enable to Takizawa system have the capability for video editing applications (Lightbody: column 6, lines 43-65)."

Applicants submit that the Examiner's assessment of the Takizawa, et al. and Lightbody, et al. patents is an overly broad interpretation of these patents. Moreover, when the patents are viewed for what actually teach, they fail to teach or suggest applicants' claimed invention.

The Takizawa, et al. patent is directed to an electronic still camera in which an image is detected to generate an image signal which is then processed and converted into a digital image signal. The digital image signal is stored in a buffer memory and then passed through a digital signal processor (DSP) where the signal "is subjected to compression, edge enhancement, smoothing and so forth" and thereafter stored in a storage medium. In the camera of the Takizawa, et al. patent, the program for the DSP is stored in a DSP program memory which is rewritable. A communication circuit permits reading DSP program data from an external source to be written into the DSP program memory.

The Takizawa, et al. patent thus merely teaches an electronic still camera wherein a DSP is used to perform compression, edge enhancement and smoothing and wherein the DSP program data can be written into the DSP program memory from an external source. The patent, therefore, does not teach or suggest that the camera include a device recognition memory for storing device recognition attribute information, nor can it thus teach or suggest an interface part arranged to communicate with an external apparatus, wherein the interface part sends the device recognition attribute information to the external apparatus, then the interface part receives an external color control signal with which the color of a digital image signal is controlled according to a result of

recognition by the external apparatus.

The passages in the Takizawa, et al. patent cited by the Examiner confirm that the patent states nothing as to the camera storing device attribute information. Thus, lines 57-60 of column 4, state, in part, as follows: "However, a user can also use the camera's switches for specific operating modes. Thus, the external device 36 sends new DSP program data to the camera . . . by the communication circuit 35, and written to the program memory . . . ." (emphasis added). Accordingly, this passage provides no basis for the Examiner's argument that the Takizawa, et al. patent discloses "... an interface part for externally transferring the image signal and recognition attribute information of the image pickup apparatus . . . an external signal processing apparatus . . . having a control part . . . wherein the control part receives said recognition attribute information . . . ." (emphasis added). The Takizawa, et al. patent simply says nothing about recognition attribute information of the image pickup, let alone that such information be received by the external apparatus.

The Examiner's reliance on the Takizawa, et al. patent, is therefore, misplaced. Moreover, the Lightbody, et al. patent was cited for the disclosure of a color space converter and adds nothing to the Takizawa, et al. patent to change this conclusion. Thus, applicants' claims 29-38 patentably distinguish over the Takizawa, et al. patent even if viewed with the Lightbody, et al. patent.

Applicants' further submit that due to the differences in the teachings of the Takizawa, et al. and Lightbody, et al. patents, the patents are not properly combinable. More particularly, the Lightbody, et al. patent discloses an editing system comprising a host computer, a display and a peripheral board connected to the host computer. The peripheral board includes a color space

converter which converts the luminance and color encoding of input video signals from a VTR or other input device to be edited into the appropriate color encoding for display on the monitor.

The system of the Lightbody, et al. patent thus has nothing to do with still cameras or the use of DSPs in such still cameras. It is thus believed that the Examiner's motivation for combining the teachings of the patents comes not from the patent themselves, but rather from the desire of the Examiner to meet the terms of applicants' claims. The Examiner's rejection based on the combined teachings of the patents is thus untenable.


Based on all of the above, it is submitted that applicants' claims 29-38 are not taught or suggested by the Takizawa, et al. and Lightbody, et al. patents. Additionally, the Sakoda, et al. patent adds nothing to the latter two patents to change this conclusion.

In view of the above, it is submitted that applicants' claims, as amended, patentably distinguish over the cited art of record. Accordingly, reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested.

Dated: January 27, 2003

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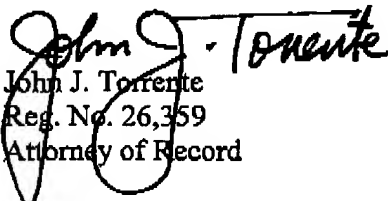
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Version With Markings To Show Changes Made  
In the Claims

Delete claim 1-28.

Add claims 29-38 as follows:

29. An image pickup apparatus comprising:

an image pickup device for forming a digital image signal;

a color converting part arranged to convert color of said digital image signal in response to an external color control signal from an external apparatus;

a device recognition attribute information memory for storing device recognition attribute information;

an interface part arranged to communicate with the external apparatus, wherein said interface part sends said device recognition attribute information to said external apparatus, then said interface part receives said external color control signal with which the color of said digital image signal is controlled according to a result of recognition by said external apparatus.

-- 30. An image pickup apparatus according to claim 29, wherein said color converting part converts color space according to the external color control signal.

31. An image pickup apparatus according to claim 29, wherein said external apparatus comprises a PC.

32. An image pickup apparatus according to claim 31, wherein said image pickup apparatus is directly connectable with said PC.

33. An image pickup method, comprising:

picking up of an image to form a digital image signal;

converting color of said digital image signal in response to an external color control signal from an external apparatus;

storing device recognition attribute information in a device recognition attribute information memory;

sending said device recognition attribute information to said external apparatus through an interface part; and

receiving said external color signal with which the color of said digital image signal is controlled according to a result of recognition by said external apparatus.

34. An image pickup method according to claim 33, wherein said converting includes converting color space according to the external color control signal.

35. An image signal processing apparatus connectable to an image pickup device that forms a digital image signal, wherein said image pickup apparatus comprises a color converting part arranged to convert color of said digital image signal in response to an external color control signal, a device recognition attribute information memory for storing device recognition attribute information, and an interface part arranged to send said device recognition attribute information to said image signal processing apparatus, comprising:

a communication part arranged to receive said device recognition attribute information from said image pickup apparatus to recognize said image pickup apparatus;

a recognizing part arranged to recognize the image pickup apparatus in response to said device recognition attribute information; and

a control part arranged to send the external color control signal to said image pickup apparatus through said communication part to control the color of said digital image signal



according to a result of recognition by said recognizing part.

36. An image signal processing apparatus according to claim 35, wherein said color converting part converts color space according to the external color control signal.

37. An image signal processing method for processing a digital image signal received from an image pickup device that forms a digital image signal, wherein said image pickup apparatus comprises a color converting part arranged to convert color of said digital image signal in response to an external color control signal, a device recognition attribute information memory for storing device recognition attribute information, and an interface part arranged to send said device recognition attribute information to said image signal processing apparatus, comprising:

receiving said device recognition attribute information from said image pickup apparatus;

a recognizing the image pickup apparatus in response to said device recognition attribute information; and

sending the external color control signal to said image pickup apparatus to control the color of said digital image signal according to a result of the recognizing.

38. An image signal processing method according to claim 37, wherein external color control signal controls the color space of said digital image signal according to the result of the recognizing.